AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The claims have been amended as follows:

1.-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method of processing testing data for testing a software module, the method comprising:

(a) extracting parameter value combinations from a data file formatted with a markup language listed in a parameter order to implement data of an external table associated with a first test case; wherein extracting parameter value combinations includes extracting a first set of parameter values and listing the first set of parameter values in an order such that each value in said first set of parameter values is positioned in the same order as the corresponding parameter listed in the parameter order;

(b) transmitting the parameter value combinations and the first set of parameter values to a software module test engine, wherein the parameter value combinations and the first set of parameter values are identified with the first test case;

(c) testing the software module with the parameter value combinations and the first set of parameter values based on the first test case;

(d) generating a first test result based on the first test case;

(e) changing the data file to implement data of the external table associated with a second test case for testing the software module, and extracting a second set of parameter values and listing the second set of parameter values in an order such that each value in said second set of parameter values is positioned in the same order as the corresponding parameter listed in the parameter order, wherein the parameter value combinations and the second set of parameter values are identified with the second test case; and

(f) generating a second test result based on the second test case.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein the external table comprises a plurality of test cases and each test case comprises a set of parameter value combinations.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein (a) comprises extracting the plurality of test cases from the data file.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7, further including creating an object from a test case parameter value combination.

10. (Original) The method of claim 6, further including changing the format of the parameter value combinations before (b).

11. (Original) The method of claim 6, further including:

(i) receiving a table of parameter value combinations at a spreadsheet application; and

(ii) converting the table to the data file with a spreadsheet plug-in.

12. (Original) The method of claim 6, further including validating the parameter value combinations by comparing the parameter value combinations to a set of rules.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein parameter value combinations are validated on demand prior to (b).

14. – 22. (Canceled)

23. (New) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer executable program for testing a software module, the computer program when executed causes a computer system to execute steps of:

(a) extracting parameter value combinations from a data file formatted with a markup language listed in a parameter order to implement data of an external table associated with a first test case; wherein extracting parameter value combinations includes extracting a first set of parameter values and listing the first set of parameter values in an order such that each value in said first set of parameter values is positioned in the same order as the corresponding parameter listed in the parameter order;

(b) transmitting the parameter value combinations and the first set of parameter values to a software module test engine, wherein the parameter value combinations and the first set of parameter values are identified with the first test case;

(c) testing the software module with the parameter value combinations and the first set of parameter values based on the first test case;

(d) generating a first test result based on the first test case;

(e) changing the data file to implement data of the external table associated with a second test case for testing the software module, and extracting a second set of parameter values and listing the second set of parameter values in an order such that each value in said second set of parameter values is positioned in the same order as the corresponding parameter listed in the parameter order, wherein the parameter value combinations and the second set of parameter values are identified with the second test case; and

(f) generating a second test result based on the second test case.

24. (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 23, wherein the external table comprises a plurality of test cases and each test case comprises a set of parameter value combinations.

25. (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 24, wherein (a) comprises extracting the plurality of test cases from the data file.

26. (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 24, further including creating an object from a test case parameter value combination.

27. (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 23, further including changing the format of the parameter value combinations before (b).

28. (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 23, further including:

(i) receiving a table of parameter value combinations at a spreadsheet application; and

(ii) converting the table to the data file with a spreadsheet plug-in.

29. (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 23, further including validating the parameter value combinations by comparing the parameter value combinations to a set of rules.

30. (New) The computer-readable medium according to claim 29, wherein parameter value combinations are validated on demand prior to (b).